



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

10/01/2021 to 12/31/2021

Superior National Forest

This report contains the best available information at the time of publication. Questions may be directed to the Project Contact.

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
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Projects Occurring Nationwide

Locatable Mining Rule - 36 CFR 228, subpart A. EIS	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Sarah Shoemaker 907-586-7886 sarahshoemaker@fs.fed.us
	Description: The U.S. Department of Agriculture proposes revisions to its regulations at 36 CFR 228, Subpart A governing locatable minerals operations on National Forest System lands. A draft EIS & proposed rule should be available for review/comment in late 2020				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57214				
	Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. LEGAL - Not Applicable. These regulations apply to all NFS lands open to mineral entry under the US mining laws. More Information is available at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/science-technology/geology/minerals/locatable-minerals/current-revisions .				

Superior National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)

R9 - Eastern Region

School Trust Land Exchange EIS	- Land ownership management	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 08/11/2017 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 02/2022	Expected:08/2022	08/2022	Peter Taylor 218-626-4368 prtaylor@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project would exchange federal Superior National Forest lands located outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) for Minnesota School Trust land located inside the BWCAW.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=45943				
	Location: UNIT - Superior National Forest All Units. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook, Lake, St. Louis. LEGAL - multiple lands within Cook, Lake and Saint Louis Counties, Minnesota. multiple lands within Cook, Lake and Saint Louis Counties, Minnesota.				

Superior National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)

R9 - Eastern Region

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)					R9 - Eastern Region
TNC Riparian Planting CE *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Jason Butcher 218-229-8830 jtbutcher@fs.fed.us
	Description: We propose planting in riparian areas on national forest system lands within the Baptism, Manitou, Two Island, Poplar, & Cascade River watersheds. The purpose of the project is to enhance and restore the aquatic ecosystems.				
	Location: UNIT - Gunflint Ranger District, Tofte Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook, Lake. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The Baptism, Manitou, Two Island, Poplar, & Cascade River watersheds on the Tofte and Gunflint Ranger Districts of the Superior NF.				

Superior National Forest Gunflint Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Bower Trout gravel pit expansion CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 06/29/2021	09/2021	Orry Hatcher 928-368-2108 orry.hatcher@usda.gov
	Description: Expand the existing Bower Trout Gravel Pit, located 1/3 mile south of FR 325 off of FR 152 to produce crushed aggregate road surfacing for maintenance needs in TwinLakes and South Brule Road area.				
	Location: UNIT - Gunflint Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - T63N,R1W,S15. T63N,R1W,S15.				
Chik Wauk Overlooks and Trapper Cabin Access CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/15/2019	Expected:08/2021	08/2021	Ryan Blaisdell 218-387-3220 ryan.blaisdell@usda.gov
	Description: Chik Wauk Museum and Nature Center is proposing to construct two overlooks in surrounding special use permit area as well a staircase/trail to Trappers Cabin interpretive site.				
	Location: UNIT - Gunflint Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - Township 64N Range 4W Section 30. Projects located within Chik Wauk Museum special use permit area located off of Moose Pond Drive.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest Gunflint Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
DNR timber access requests CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2021	Expected:07/2021	09/2021	Luke Laaveg 218-626-4300 x4324 luke.laaveg@usda.gov
	Description: MN DNR access requests on the Gunflint Ranger District includes Nester creek and Greenwood Lake.				
	Location: UNIT - Gunflint Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - T62N R1W Sec. 31, & T61N R1W Sections, 5 and 6- Nester 63N R1E Sections 1, 11, 12, and 26- Greenwood. Gunflint Ranger District.				
East Zone Trails and Roads Management Project EA *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Watershed management - Road management	In Progress: Objection Period Legal Notice 07/03/2021	Expected:10/2021	10/2021	Orry Hatcher 928-368-2108 ohatcher@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project would authorize a series of trails, and decommission other trails no longer in use on the East Zone. In addition, culvert removal, reclassification, and decommissioning of roads would restore streams and wetlands.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54973				
Ester Lake Campsite Closure and Opening CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management		Cancelled	N/A	Cathleen Quinn 218-387-3240 cquinn@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project would close down Ester Lake #3 and open a new campsite on Ester Lake (see map below). Ester Lake #3 is located too close adjacent campsites and impacts wilderness character, impacting visitor opportunities for solitude.				
	Location: UNIT - Gunflint Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Lake. LEGAL - Township 66N Range6W Section 35 %u2013 Current campsite. Township 66N Range 6W Section 26 - Proposed campsite . In the BWCAW on the East side of Ester Lake.				
Expressway Route Snowmobile Trail Reroute CE	- Watershed management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Amy Wilfahrt 218-387-3771 amy.wilfahrt@usda.gov
	Description: Reroute a section of the Expressway Snowmobile Trail between East Twin Lake and the South Brule River that is currently within the floodplain of Bluff Creek. Remove culverts from the existing trail to improve the streams natural flow.				
	Location: UNIT - Gunflint Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The project is located approximately 25 miles north of Grand Marais, MN near East Twin Lake in Cook County, MN on FR 152.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest	Gunflint Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R9 - Eastern Region
Pincushion Mountain Trail Reroute CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/04/2021	Expected:10/2021	10/2021	Cathleen Quinn 218-387-3240 cathleen.quinn@usda.gov
	Description: This project would involve adding a user developed trail that already exists on the landscape to the NF system. No new construction is anticipated but reconstruction of the trail would occur.				
	Location: UNIT - Gunflint Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - T61N, R1E, Sec 15. Pincushion Mountain recreation area near Grand Marais, MN.				
TwinGreen Project EA *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 07/27/2021	Expected:05/2022	06/2022	Orry Hatcher 928-368-2108 ohatcher@fs.fed.us
	Description: The TwinGreen Project aims to promote diverse, resilient forest ecosystems. This will be accomplished through hazard fuels reduction, vegetation management, and wildlife habitat improvement.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59281				
Location: UNIT - Gunflint Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - T61N R2W; T62N R2W; T62N R1W; T62N, R1E; T63N R1W; T63N R1E; T63N R2E; T64N R1W, T64N R1E - all various sections. See the web map at the following link: https://usfs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=997b8118fa0f44f08f18bee9511821bd .					

Superior National Forest	Kawishiwi Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R9 - Eastern Region
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Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest Kawishiwi Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Twin Metals Minnesota Environmental Impact Statement EIS *UPDATED*	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress: NOI in Federal Register 06/30/2020 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 01/2022	Expected:09/2022	10/2022	Derek Strohl 414-297-4416 BLM_ES_TMM_comments@blm.gov
	Description: The BLM will lead preparation of an EIS to analyze potential impacts of issuing a preference right lease application and mine plan for an underground copper-nickel mine. Forest Plan amendment and special use permit may be needed.				
	Web Link: https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/1503233/510				
	Location: UNIT - Kawishiwi Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Lake, St. Louis. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The proposed activities would occur approximately 10 miles southeast of Ely, MN, South of State Highway 1, in an area southeast of the South Kawishiwi River.				
Twin Metals Minnesota Hydrogeologic Field Investigation Activities Environmental Assessment EA *UPDATED*	- Minerals and Geology - Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/06/2021 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 10/2021	Expected:01/2022	02/2022	Eric Wirz 218-626-4359 ewirz@fs.fed.us
	Description: Gather and analyze baseline data regarding the hydraulic properties of the hydrostratigraphic units adjacent to the Maturi Deposit. Also proposes special use permits for temporary access and ground water use associated with data collection.				
	Web Link: https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2003786/510				
	Location: UNIT - Kawishiwi Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Lake. LEGAL - Not Applicable. 5 Miles East of Ely MN.				

Superior National Forest LaCroix Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Echo Rapids Road washout repair project CE *UPDATED*	- Road management	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/21/2020	Expected:10/2021	05/2022	Erich Grebner 218-666-0056 or 0053 egrebner@fs.fed.us
	Description: Project proposes to repair culvert washout on Echo Rapids Road. Activities include removing old culverts, gravel washed downstream, installing new culvert, and repairing the road. The existing fish rearing pond, which in no longer in use, will be				
	Location: UNIT - LaCroix Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Forest Road 479C, Echo Rapids Road north of Echo Lake.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest LaCroix Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
LaCroix Landscape Project EA *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2022	Expected:03/2023	03/2023	Michael Johnson 907-288-7729 mwjohnson@fs.fed.us
	Description: Collaborative effort between resource managers, stakeholders, and land owners to improve forest conditions using an all lands approach. Forest management treatments to address natural resource priority objectives across multiple land ownerships.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55309				
	Location: UNIT - LaCroix Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately 500,000 acres of federal, state, county, tribal, industrial and private lands in Northeast Minnesota.				
Lac664104 Frank Akins CE	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Janel Portz 218-229-8823 jportz@fs.fed.us
	Description: Access to private land across federal. Reissue of existing special use permit.				
	Location: UNIT - LaCroix Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - T64N R16W sec32&33, T63N R16W sec4,5&9. Off the 200 Road.				
Lac667903 Nick Eastman CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/03/2020	Expected:10/2021	11/2021	Janel Portz 218-229-8823 jportz@fs.fed.us
	Description: Access to private land across federal. Reissue of existing special uses permit.				
	Location: UNIT - LaCroix Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - T67N R20W sec 27. Off 608 Rd.				

Superior National Forest	Laurentian Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R9 - Eastern Region
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Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest Laurentian Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Erik Nelson CE	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Janel Portz 218-229-8823 jportz@fs.fed.us
	Description: Access to private land across federal.				
	Location: UNIT - Laurentian Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - T60N R18W Sec. 23. North of Hwy 53 East of the Seppi Pit road will be 40 feet wide road, .60 miles long, approximately 2.91 acres.				
FRTA Easement St. Louis County CSAH Sturgeon River Bridge Replacement CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 09/2021	Expected:10/2021	11/2021	Jon Van Alstine 218-626-4319 jon.vanalstine@usda.gov
	Description: FRTA Easement to facilitate replacement and maintenance of Sturgeon River Bridge CSAH 65 St. Louis County				
	Location: UNIT - Laurentian Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - S1/2 SE, Sec 17, T60NR20W. CSAH 65 Southwest of Cook, MN.				
Giants Ridge Vegetation Management Project EA	- Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/04/2021 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 09/2021	Expected:01/2022	02/2022	Linda Merriman 218-365-2095 linda.merriman@usda.gov
	Description: The Laurentian Ranger District proposes activities to move vegetation conditions toward desired conditions as described in the Forest Plan, while maintaining scenic integrity near Giants Ridge Recreation Area.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60037				
Jeremiah W. Stecker CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 04/12/2021	08/2021	Janel Portz 218-229-8823 jportz@fs.fed.us
	Description: Access to private land across federal.				
	Location: UNIT - Laurentian Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - T56N R13W Sec20. Off 121 A, North of Harris Lake.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest Laurentian Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
MN DNR - South Greenwood CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 03/26/2021	06/2021	Janel Portz 218-229-8823 jportz@fs.fed.us
	Description: Access to state land for management activities.				
	Location: UNIT - Laurentian Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Lake. LEGAL - T58N R11W sec25. Off FS Rd 813.				
Seven Beavers Snowmobile Trail Re-route CE	- Recreation management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Tim Engrav 218-666-0025 tengrav@fs.fed.us
	Description: To construct a new snowmobile trail re-route in the Skibo road area (Forest Road 120).				
	Location: UNIT - Laurentian Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - T58N-R13W Sections 20,21,22,23,24,29,30; T58N-R14W Sections 22,23,24,25,26. In the Skibo Road area, County Road 569 and Forest Road 120.				
Sipila Access CE	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Janel Portz 218-229-8823 jportz@fs.fed.us
	Description: Access to private land across federal.				
	Location: UNIT - Laurentian Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - St. Louis. LEGAL - T60N R17W sec 5 & 6. 10 miles N of Virginia, MN.				

Superior National Forest Tofte Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R9 - Eastern Region
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Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest Tofte Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Harriet Lake Lot 6 addition CE	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/20/2020	Expected:07/2021	09/2021	Ryan Blaisdell 218-663-8603 ryan.blaisdell@usda.gov
	Description: Add 16 foot by 16 foot (256 sq. ft)screened porch addition on the east side of their cabin. Extend the roof eaves out five feet on the west side for an open porch that includes an 8 by 5 foot (40 sq. ft.) enclosure for a mud room. Replace windows.				
	Location: UNIT - Tofte Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - T 60N R 6W Section 20. T 60N R 6W Section 20- Harriet Lake (Lake County).				
Lutsen Mountains Ski Area Expansion Project EIS *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Special use management	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 09/10/2021 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 03/2022	Expected:07/2022	07/2022	Michael Jimenez 218-626-4383 mjimenez@fs.fed.us
	Description: Lutsen Mountains has requested a special use permit to expand their ski resort onto 550 acres of adjacent National Forest System lands administered by Superior National Forest.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52440				
MN DNR timber access requests Tofte Ranger District CE	Location: UNIT - Tofte Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - T60N R3W S28, T60N R3W S29, T60N R3W S30, T60N R3W S31, T60N R3W S32. Lutsen Resort in Cook County, Minnesota.				
	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2021	Expected:07/2021	09/2021	Luke Laaveg 218-626-4300 x4324 luke.laaveg@usda.gov
	Description: MN DNR timber access requests for Cloquet Lake, Plum Lake, Wanless Spurs and Caribou Trail.				
MN DNR timber access requests Tofte Ranger District CE	Location: UNIT - Tofte Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - Cloquet Lake: T58N R9W Sec. 1, 2 Plum Lake: T60N, R7W, Sec 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 Wanless Spur: T59N R7W Sections2, 3,4, 9, 10, 11T60N 7W Sections 34 and 35 Caribou: T60N, R3W, Sec 3, 2, 11. Across Tofte Ranger District.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Superior National Forest Tofte Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Mountain Lodge Snowmobile Trail Reroute CE	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/04/2021	Expected:09/2021	10/2021	Luke Laaveg 218-626-4300 x4324 luke.laaveg@usda.gov
	Description: This snowmobile trail crosses private land where the landowner will no longer allow the trail. This project proposes to reroute the snowmobile trail on approximately 200 feet of national forest system land and private land owned by Mountain Lodge.				
	Location: UNIT - Tofte Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook. LEGAL - T60N, R3W Sec 28. Tofte Ranger District.				
Tofte Landscape Project EA	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 06/16/2021	Expected:04/2022	04/2022	Peter Taylor 218-626-4368 prtaylor@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Tofte Landscape Project would help improve forest conditions and achieve vegetation management objectives on the district over the next 15 years, using a 'flexible toolbox' approach.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55216				
	Location: UNIT - Tofte Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cook, Lake. LEGAL - Not Applicable. This project area is the Tofte Ranger District, excluding the Boundary Water's Canoe Area Wilderness, Roadless Area Conservation Rule areas, Research Natural Areas, and Unique Biological Areas.				

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